

PETER C. HILDRETH

BANK COMMISSIONER

State of New Hampshire Banking Department

64B Old Suncook Road Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Telephone: (603) 271-3561 FAX: Banking (603) 271-1090 FAX: Consumer Credit (603) 271-0750

ROBERT A. FLEURY DEPUTY BANK COMMISSIONER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Abigail Shaine

> General Counsel 603-271-3561 New Hampshire Banking Department

September 25, 2007

NEW HAMPSHIRE BANKING DEPARTMENT TO HOLD CONSUMER OUTREACH SESSIONS IN PORTSMOUTH, CONCORD, AND LACONIA, NH

Banking Commissioner Peter C. Hildreth today announced three additional sessions in a series of mortgage information programs being held around New Hampshire. Upcoming sessions are scheduled for:

PORTSMOUTH

October 4th, Housing Partnership, from 4 pm - 8 pm 1555 Islington Street, Portsmouth, NH 603-431-3620

CONCORD

October 9th, NH Banking Department, from 2 pm - 8 pm 64B Old Suncook Road, Concord, NH 603-271-3561

LACONIA

October 16th, Laconia Library Auditorium, from 4 - 7:30 pm 695 N Main St, Laconia, NH 603-534-4775

Commissioner Hildreth stated, "During the last two to three years, many of our citizens have bought homes or refinanced homes using adjustable rate mortgages or other non-traditional loans. Since the interest rates on many of these mortgages will be adjusting to a higher rate, it is important for consumers to know how the adjustment will increase their monthly payment."

Banking Department staff will review the mortgage loan provisions with consumers on an individual, confidential basis. The staff will explain the adjustment process outlined in the loan documents and estimate what the new payment would be if the mortgage were to reset today. Staff will

TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964



State of New Hampshire Banking Department

64B Old Suncook Road Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Telephone: (603) 271-3561 FAX: Banking (603) 271-1090 FAX: Consumer Credit (603) 271-0750

PETER C. HILDRETHBANK COMMISSIONER

ROBERT A. FLEURY DEPUTY BANK COMMISSIONER

also review documents for signs of fraud and assist consumers in filling out consumer complaint forms if appropriate.

Hildreth noted that, "Many of these loans are about to adjust to require a new, higher payment. Consumers who cannot afford an upcoming increase in payment terms need to start exploring other options today. They need to take action before they are faced with impossibly high monthly payments."

Commissioner Hildreth stated, "It is important that New Hampshire citizens understand their mortgages today, so that they are not surprised by drastic increases in their monthly mortgage payments over the next few months." Commissioner Hildreth stated further, "Borrowers need this information to plan ahead and find alternative solutions."

A representative from Consumer Credit Counseling Service NH-VT may also be present at the sessions to conduct supplementary individual counseling sessions and schedule additional meetings as appropriate. CCC is a local non-profit community service organization that can offer advice on such issues as budget and credit counseling, as well as debt management – concerns that often go hand-in-hand with mortgage concerns.

No appointment is necessary and the sessions are free. Consumers should bring as many of their loan documents as they can including, if possible: the HUD-1 form; the Note, the Mortgage, the Truth in Lending Statement; the Good Faith Estimate; the Application; the most recent mortgage statement; and any other documents they may have signed in connection with obtaining this mortgage.

The public is also invited to stop into the NHBD office during business hours and bring their paperwork for analysis. For additional information about the Banking Department's consumer outreach program and a continually updated schedule of locations where sessions will be held, visit our website at: http://www.nh.gov/banking/outreach.html.

###

TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964